

Claims

- [c1] 1.A sweeper guide comprising:
- (a)a body comprised of a resilient material and having a lower edge;
 - (b)a plurality of metal bars formed within the body adjacent the lower edge, wherein each metal insert is comprised of a metal body defining a channel and a wear-resistant insert disposed within the channel; and wherein the metal bars are spaced along the lower edge with rubber material between two adjacent metal inserts.
- [c2] 2.The sweeper guide of claim 1 wherein the resilient material is rubber and the body is vulcanized with the metal bars in place.
- [c3] 3.The sweeper guide of claim 1 wherein the resilient material is polyurethane.
- [c4] 4.The sweeper guide of claim 1 wherein the metal body comprises steel and the wear-resistant material comprises carbide.
- [c5] 5.The sweeper guide of claim 1 wherein between about 50% and 95% of the longitudinal length of the guide is comprised of metal bars.

- [c6] 6.The sweeper guide of claim 4 wherein the metal bars are spaced apart by a distance equal to about 25% of its length.
- [c7] 7.A method of manufacturing a sweeper guide including a rubber body having a lower edge, comprising the steps of:
- (a)making a plurality of metal bars, each comprising a carbide insert;
 - (b)vulcanizing the metal bars within the rubber body, such that the metal bars are adjacent the lower edge and are spaced apart.
- [c8] 8.The method of claim 6 wherein metal bars are spaced apart equally such that about 50% and 95% of the longitudinal length of the guide is comprised of metal bars.
- [c9] 9.The sweeper guide of claim 7 wherein the metal bars are spaced apart by a distance equal to about 25% of its length.